

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 4. This sheet, which includes Figures 2-4, replaces the original drawing sheet including Figures 2-4. In Figure 4, reference numeral 40 has been changed to 50.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-6 and 13-18 were allowed, claims 8, 9, 20 and 21 were objected to, and claims 7, 10-12, 19 and 22-24 were rejected. Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-6, 13-18 and for indicating the allowability of claims 8, 9, 20 and 21.

In this Reply and Amendment, claim 7 has been amended, claim 9 has been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1-8 and 10-24 remain pending in the present application. Claim 7 has been amended to add the language of allowable claim 9 and, along with its dependent claims, should be in condition for allowance. All claim amendments are fully supported throughout the specification and figures. No new subject matter has been added.

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to for including a reference character not mentioned in the description, namely reference character 40 in Figure 4. Accordingly, Figure 4 has been corrected and the reference character 40 has been replaced with the proper reference character 50. A replacement sheet containing Figures 2-4 has been attached to this Reply and Amendment.

Claims 7-12 were objected to based on recitation of "the second tubular" in claim 7 without proper antecedent basis. Accordingly, independent claim 7 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis and the objection should be overcome.

Claims 7, 10-12, 19 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by the Angel reference, US Patent No.: 3,048,230. Although Applicants disagree with the rejection, independent claim 7 has been amended to facilitate allowance of the present patent application by incorporating the language of allowable claim 9. Accordingly, the rejection is moot with respect to independent claim 7 and its dependent claims.

With respect to independent claim 19 and dependent claims 22-24, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection. The Angel reference describes a drill collar sub 10 having a bore 12 with an elongated lubricant chamber 14. The lubricant chamber 14 is sealed

off from the bore of the sub by an elastic imperforate sleeve 16 covered by a perforate rigid sleeve 18. (See column 2, lines 1-6). A pressure differential actuates elastic sleeve 16 and causes the sleeve to bulge outwardly and force lubricant through a duct system to bearings. The elastic sleeve is designed such that the actuating pressure within the drill string causes the bulge to progressively move toward a thick end of the sleeve. This expels lubricant progressively down the chamber. (See column 2, lines 46-61). However, the Angel reference fails to disclose or suggest various elements of independent claim 19.

For example, the reference does not disclose or suggest placing "a flexible tube in a flow" in a subterranean well "to pump at least part of the flow" to establish a hydraulic pressure, as recited in independent claim 19. Claims 22-24 depend from independent claim 19 and are patentable for the reasons provided with respect to claim 19 as well as for the unique subject matter recited in these dependent claims. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 18 and 22-24 should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing remarks, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner wishes to resolve any formal issues by way of a telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Van Someren
Reg. No. 36,038

Date: January 10, 2007

PO Box 2107
Cypress, TX 77410-2107
Voice: (281) 373-4369